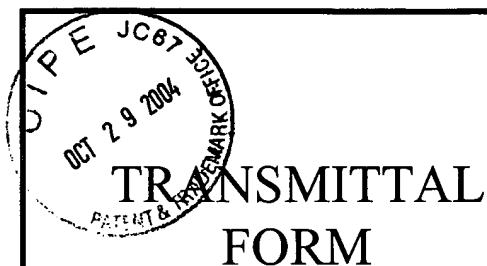


11-01-04

1641

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Application Serial Number	10/081,163
Filing Date	February 20, 2002
First Named Inventor	Chubinskaya et al.
Group Art Unit	1641
Examiner Name	Gary W. Counts
Attorney Docket No.	STK-081
Patent No.	Not applicable
Issue Date	Not applicable

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

- | | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form
<input type="checkbox"/> Check Attached
<input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Fee Transmittal Form
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Response
<input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> Letter to Official Draftsperson including Drawings [Total Sheets <u>16</u>]
<input type="checkbox"/> Petition for Extension of Time
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement
<input type="checkbox"/> Form PTO-1449
<input type="checkbox"/> Copies of IDS Citations
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<input type="checkbox"/> Request For Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal
<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney (Revocation of Prior Powers)
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<input type="checkbox"/> Executed Declaration and Power of Attorney for Utility or Design Patent Application
<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement
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<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Certificate of Correction
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<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Brief (in triplicate)
<input type="checkbox"/> Status Inquiry
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt Postcard
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<input type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below) |
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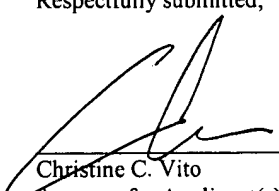
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PATENT
Attorney Docket No. STK-081
(7557/65)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Chubinskaya et al.
SERIAL NO.: 10/081,163 GROUP NO.: 1641
FILING DATE: February 20, 2002 EXAMINER: Gary W. Counts
TITLE: Methods of Using Bone Morphogenic Proteins as Biomarkers for
Determining Cartilage Degeneration and Aging

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

The Office action mailed on September 30, 2004 in connection with the above-referenced application requires restriction to the invention of one of Groups I-XXIV. Applicants elect the invention of Group V, which includes claims 9, 17-21, 23, 33, 34, and 44, with traverse and submit the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 14 of this paper.